



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Dear Fellow Virginians:

The Department of Environmental Quality is pleased to issue the "2001 Virginia Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Summary Report." This is the most current report on the release and management of toxic chemicals by Virginia manufacturing and processing facilities subject to the reporting requirements of Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

In 2001, there was a 3.67 percent reduction (2.69 million pounds) in on-site releases of chemicals from facilities in Virginia that submitted reports. This is compared with the same list of chemicals in the report for 2000. The amount of chemicals transferred in wastes to off-site locations for treatment or disposal increased by 8.49 percent. For this report, there was a significant change in the reporting requirements for lead and lead compounds, which are now considered persistent bioaccumulative toxic (PBT) chemicals. The reporting thresholds for lead and lead compounds are now 100 pounds or lower, rather than the normal threshold level of 25,000/10,000 pounds for other TRI chemicals. This change resulted in the inclusion of additional facilities and reports.

For the 2001 reporting year, DEQ received 2,030 TRI reports from 508 facilities. This is an increase from last year, when DEQ received 1,930 TRI reports from 485 facilities.

Because of the unique designation of PBT chemicals by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the report devotes a separate section to PBT issues. Readers also may find sections describing the year 2001 reportable activities, historic trend analyses, ranking of TRI pollutants released to the environment, ranking of top industry sectors for releasing TRI chemicals, top ten TRI reporting facilities, and a reference section.

The TRI report is published to better inform citizens about the environment in their community. To that end, DEQ continues to improve the format and readability of the report for the public. We encourage the public to read the report carefully and to understand both the utility and limitations of the TRI information. The TRI report contains quantitative information regarding the release and management of some toxic chemicals, not the public's exposure to the chemicals or the risks associated with them. For further information about the TRI report or resources available to you through the Virginia Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Program, please contact Dona Huang, DEQ SARA Title III Program, at (804) 698-4405.

Thank you for your interest in this TRI report.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert G. Burnley".

Robert G. Burnley